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PATENT  
28341/6281A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): McKim *et al.*

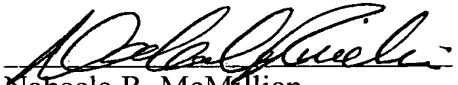
Serial No: 09/586,242

Filed: June 2, 2000

Title: Improved Toxicity Screening  
Method

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: B. Ozga

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)   
) Nabeela R. McMillian  
) Registration No. 43,363  
) Agent for Applicants  
)

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to an Official Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on March 28, 2001. This response is due on September 28, 2001, by virtue of the attached petition and fee for a three-month extension of time to respond. No additional fees are believed to be due. However, should any fees be deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any such fees from Marshall, Gerstein and Borun account number 13-2855.

In light of the remarks presented below, Applicants request reconsideration of the application.